

Senate Bill 376

By: Senators Douglas of the 17th, Grant of the 25th, Schaefer of the 50th, Staton of the 18th, Williams of the 19th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Code Section 15-12-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to exemptions from jury duty, so as to provide an exemption for certain spouses and children of certain deceased military persons; to provide for definitions; to provide for limitations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

Code Section 15-12-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to exemptions from jury duty, is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:

"(d)(1) As used in this subsection, the term:

(A) 'Official written verification' means a document issued by the United States Department of Defense stating a deceased's qualification to hazardous duty pay and the deceased's date of death.

(B) 'Qualified child' means a person between the ages of 18 and 21 who is the child of any person killed after September 11, 2001, while on ordered federal duty while in a status which qualified the deceased to hazardous duty pay.

(C) 'Qualified spouse' means a surviving unremarried spouse of any person killed after September 11, 2001, while on ordered federal duty while in a status which qualified the deceased to hazardous duty pay.

(2)(A) A qualified spouse who presents a copy of his or her marriage certificate; or

(B) A qualified child who presents a copy of his or her birth certificate or adoption certificate

who requests to be excused or deferred from jury duty shall be excused from jury duty upon presentation of a copy of an official written verification.

(3) The exemption or deferral provided by this subsection shall apply for five years as measured from the date of death."

- 1
- SECTION 2.**
- 2
- All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.